

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Cancelled)

Claim 2. (Cancelled)

Claim 3. (Cancelled)

Claim 4. (Cancelled)

Claim 5. (Cancelled)

Claim 6. (Currently Amended)

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A trocar, comprising:

(a.) a housing assembly;

(b.) a cannula assembly attached to the housing assembly and defining an axial bore therethrough; and

(c.) an obturator assembly for sliding engagement through the axial bore defined by the cannula assembly, said obturator assembly comprising a shaft having a piercing end for insertion into a patient and a piercing tip removably connected to the piercing end of the shaft, said piercing tip comprising:

(i.) a body having an upper face and a lower face tapering away from the shaft; and

(ii.) an insert blade residing partially within the body of the piercing tip and protruding outward away from the body of the piercing tip, said insert blade comprising a non-conical, blunt head and two wing elements having ^{points and} conical-shaped points and beveled lateral edges and located 180 degrees apart ^{between the upper face + lower face of the body} [between the upper face and lower face of the body]

Claim 7. (Original)

The trocar of claim 6, wherein the insert blade is fabricated from metal.

Claim 8. (Original)

The trocar of claim 6, wherein the insert blade is fabricated from plastic.

Claim 9. (New)

The trocar of claim 6, wherein said shaft further comprises a handling end for gripping.

Claim 10: (New)

The trocar of claim 9, further comprising an arcuate-shaped cap attached to the handling end of the shaft.

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Claim 11: (New)

The trocar of claim 6, wherein the piercing tip is removably connected to the piercing end of the shaft of the obturator.
